Government of Yukon

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Annual Women's Forum Focuses on Leadership

WHITEHORSE - Women in leadership will be the focus of this year's annual women's forum, *Making Our Way: Yukon Women in Leadership*, Marian C. Horne, Minister responsible for the Women's Directorate announced today.

The annual women's forum, which will run from October 3–4, is hosted by the Yukon Advisory Council on Women's Issues (YACWI) a group of eight leading Yukon women mandated to help advance the legal, social and economic equality of Yukon women.

"I am so impressed with the level of dedication and wealth of experience shown by women in our communities," Horne said. "The two-day forum will provide opportunities for these women to share their leadership skills and for participants to network with Yukon women active in community development, politics, arts and business."

Mentors will share their perspectives on qualities that define leadership, and group work sessions will explore the characteristics, skills, values and abilities of existing women in leadership roles. Forum participants will also discuss, in part, ways to harness, develop and sustain passions for roles and issues, strategies necessary for balancing leadership roles with other obligations and examine systemic barriers to women acquiring success as leaders.

"I feel there is a leader in all of us," YACWI chair, Julie Ménard, said. "I see this forum as a chance for Yukon women to discover and enhance those skills they may already possess or to acquire and to develop new abilities."

Deputy Premier Elaine Taylor will be a keynote speaker and a mentor at the forum.

"It's an honour to be asked to speak to the challenges and opportunities as an elected representative," Taylor said. "I look forward to sharing and exchanging perspectives on women and leadership."

Seventy-five women from Yukon are anticipated to attend this year's forum.

For more information visit ***www.womensdirectorate.gov.yk.ca***

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